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News from

**THE UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON
PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT**

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DAYTON, Ohio, October 17, 1968 --- Alphonse H. Mahrt, '12, a retired member of the Board of Directors of The Mead Corporation, and Edwin G. Becker, '14, Judge of the Court of Common Appeals of Hamilton County, Ohio, have been named the second and third winners of the University of Dayton Distinguished Alumnus Award. The Award, established in 1967, will be given to the two men this Saturday night, October 19, at the annual University of Dayton Alumni Homecoming dinner in the ballroom of the John F. Kennedy Memorial Union on campus. More than 500 alumni will attend the dinner.

Dr. Carroll A. Hochwalt, '20, director of the St. Louis Research Council, member of the University of Dayton Lay Board of Trustees, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Catholic University of America, was the first recipient at last year's Homecoming dinner. The selection committee consists of three members of the University's National Alumni Association Board, Miss Mary Shay, executive secretary of the Alumni Association, and Bro. Elmer C. Lackner, S.M., Vice President for Public Relations for the University.

To be eligible a person must be an alumnus of the University of Dayton, as provided in the Constitution of the University of Dayton Alumni Association, at least 25 years prior to receiving the Distinguished Alumnus Award. The individual must also be a prominent person in his, or her, chosen field endeavor or by reason of exceptional public service.

Mr. Mahrt, who has lived in Chillicothe, Ohio, since the 1930s, is a former honor student and athletic great from 1906 to 1914 when the then St. Mary's Institute consisted of high school, undergraduate and graduate college divisions. He received special honors as the top man in his freshman class and received awards for philosophy, theodicy and athletics.

He graduated in 1912 but was permitted to continue as an athlete while taking post-graduate courses, a common occurrence in those days. A quarterback for old St. Mary's, he was considered one of the finest passers in his college days. He also was a guard in basketball and, besides serving as cage captain, he performed on teams that won 36 in a row, a record which still stands at the University of Dayton. He was a football captain and a fine catcher in baseball.

He later helped to found the Dayton Triangles professional football club, one of the first teams in the National Football League. He was the team's first captain.

Mr. Mahrt's ability as an accountant, his understanding of finances coupled with a strict code of honesty and integrity brought him to the attention of the Mead and Talbott families. Thus, in 1927, began a union with the Mead business interests which was to last for 40 years.

By 1928, Mr. Mahrt had been named assistant treasurer of the Mead Paperboard Company. As the Mead interests expanded, Mr. Mahrt became a pivotal negotiator, playing a key role in the constant growth of the expanding company. When the farflung business was incorporated into one large operation in 1930, Mr. Mahrt was named its first assistant treasurer. He also was appointed treasurer of the Mead Paperboard Company.

When the Mead Paperboard Company was changed into the Paperboard Division of The Mead Corporation in 1936 it was due largely to Mr. Mahrt's understanding of the structural procedures.

Mr. Mahrt was named treasurer of The Mead Corporation in 1942. The corporation then consisted of 12 mills in eight states with a payroll of \$10,000,000 and a gross sales of \$41,000,000. He helped to develop the Georgia Kraft Company from the Macon Kraft and Rome Kraft companies, was a pivotal force in the many mergers and joint ventures of the corporation, served as president of Mead Board Sales Inc., and was named executive vice president of the corporation and named to its Board of Directors by the early 1950s.

Mr. Mahrt retired as an active officer of the Mead Corporation in 1959 but remained on the board of directors. By this time, the Corporation had 50 operations in 20 states, employed 17,000 and showed sales of \$509,500,000. Mr. Mahrt has a company and a town named after him in Alabama.

Mr. Mahrt is a member of various trade associations, Dayton Bicycle Club and is a fourth degree knight in the Knights of Columbus. He also serves the Chillicothe Hospital and Catholic Charities. Mr. Mahrt lives with his wife, Marcie, in Chillicothe, Ohio.

Judge Becker, who is a member of the University of Dayton Associate Board of Lay Trustees, was educated by the Society of Mary, who operate UD, through elementary, high school and college grades. He graduated from the University's high school, now defunct, in 1910 and received his A.B. degree from the University in 1914. He also has a B.S. degree from Xavier University, LL.D. from UD, and three degrees, LL.B., J.D., and LL.D. from Chase College of Law in Cincinnati.

He was high school teacher in Pittsburgh and San Francisco, a coordinator in chemistry and metallurgy at the University of Cincinnati and assistant to the Chemical Research Director of The Proctor and Gamble Company.

He has been actively engaged in the practice of law since 1920. He is a member of the Cincinnati Bar Association, Ohio Bar Association, American Bar Association and the American Judicature Society.

He has been a member and vice president of the Cincinnati Board of Education for 26 years, member and president of the Union Board of High Schools for 18 years and member and president of the Public Recreation Committee, Cincinnati, for 14 years. He has been member and chairman of the Board of Samuel Drake Memorial Hospital for eight years, and member and chairman of the Board of Associate Lay Trustees of the College of Mount Saint Joseph on the Ohio.

He is founder and director of The Ohio Deposit Guarantee Fund, guaranteeing and insuring deposits in 135 member companies with total assets in excess of one billion dollars.

He is director and chairman of the Board of The Tri-State Savings and Loan Company, president of the Aragon Savings and Loan Company, the Reliable Savings and Loan Company, the Newtown Savings and Loan Company, and the Dorst Manufacturing Company. He is a member of the executive committee of The Ohio Savings and Loan League.

Judge Becker received the 1957 Saint Francis Xavier Medal at Xavier University, which is presented each year to an outstanding Catholic in the United States. Judge Becker received the award "for courageous and distinguished leadership in education and community betterment."